

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VIENNA 00626 261625Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /085 W  
-----261809Z 053572 /47

R 261602Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0613  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS VIENNA 0626

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, CS, AU  
SUBJECT: FURTHER AUSTRIAN SUPPORT FOR CHARTER 77 SIGNERS

REF: VIENNA 0505

1. AUSTRIAN INTEREST IN FATE OF CHARTER 77 SIGNERS REMAINS  
HIGH AND FURTHER ACTIONS HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN THEIR SUPPORT.  
MFA CONFIRMED TO CSSR AMBASSADOR THAT AUSTRIA IS PREPARED TO  
OFFER ASYLUM TO SIGNERS, AUSTRIAN JOURNALISTS UNION SENT  
LETTER TO PRESIDENT HUSSAK, AND AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL KICKED  
OFF WITH PROTEST DEMONSTRATION BEFORE CSSR TRAVEL OFFICE IN VIENNA  
NATIONWIDE DRIVE SIGNATURES ON PETITION TO CSSR GOVERNMENT.

2. CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR INQUIRED AT MFA ABOUT RECENT  
REMARKS OF CHANCELLOR KREISKY ON CHARTER 77 (REPORTED VIENNA  
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0443) AND WAS INFORMED THAT, AS KREISKY HAD INDICATED,  
AUSTRIA WOULD GRANT ASYLUM TO ANY SIGNERS OF CHARTER 77  
WHO DESIRED IT. THIS AUSTRIAN POSITION WAS THEN  
CONFIRMED IN STATEMENT FROM MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

3. AUSTRIAN JOURNALISTS' UNION IN JANUARY 21 LETTER TO CSSR PRESIDENT HUSAK PROTESTED ACTIONS AGAINST CHARTER 77 SIGNERS, DEMANDED IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ALL PERSONS DETAINED AND RETRACTION OF REPRESSIVE MEASURES, AND ASKED HUSAK TO EXERCISE HIS RIGHT AS PRESIDENT TO QUASH PENDING PROCEEDINGS. LETTER STATED THAT REPUTATION OF CSSR WAS HARMED BY ACTIONS AGAINST SIGNERS AND THAT AUSTRIAN JOURNALISTS WERE ALARMED BY FACT PUBLIC IN CSSR HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF CHARTER'S CONTENTS.

4. AUSTRIAN CHAPTER OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL LAUNCHED NATIONWIDE DRIVE TO SECURE SIGNATURES ON PETITION IN SUPPORT OF CHARTER 77 SIGNERS, WHICH IT KICKED OFF WITH PROTEST DEMONSTRATION JANUARY 25 BEFORE OFFICIAL CSSR TRAVEL AGENCY, CEDOK IN VIENNA. ABOUT 200 PROMINENT AUSTRIAN POLITICAL AND CULTURAL FIGURES PARTICIPATED IN DEMONSTRATION. PETITION ACTION HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY LEADERS OF AUSTRIAN OPPOSITION PEOPLE'S PARTY AND SEVERAL SOCIALIST YOUTH GROUPS. UPON CONCLUSION OF DRIVE FEBRUARY 3, PETITION IS TO BE PRESENTED TO CSSR AMBASSADOR AT VIENNA. IT READS: "WE EMPHATICALLY REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CSSR TO STOP PERSECUTION OF THE SIGNATORIES OF CHARTER 77, TO RELEASE ARRESTED SIGNATORIES AND TO ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE GENERAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS". BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, POLITICAL PARTIES, RESOLUTIONS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FURTHER AUSTRIAN SUPPORT FOR CHARTER 77 SIGNERS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SHUM, CS, AU, CHARTER 77  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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